

## CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. A process for improving the pour point of hydrocarbon feeds, wherein the feeds are comprised of paraffins containing more than 10 carbon atoms, comprising:
- bringing the feed into contact with a catalyst containing at least one dioctahedral 2:1 phyllosilicate and at least one hydrodehydrogenating element in the metallic form.
2. A process according to claim 1, wherein the phyllosilicate is in the form of sheets and has an interplanar distance of at least  $2.00 \times 10^{-9}$  m,
- and wherein the space between the phyllosilicate sheets comprises pillars based on at least one oxide of at least one element selected from elements from groups IVB, VB, VIB, VIII, IB, IIB, IIA and IVA.
3. A process according to claim 2, wherein the pillars are based on at least one oxide selected from the group  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{ZrO}_2$  and  $\text{V}_2\text{O}_5$ .
4. A process according to claim 1, wherein the phyllosilicate contains fluorine.
5. A process according to claim 2, wherein the interplanar distance is at least  $2.65 \times 10^{-9}$  m.
6. A process according to claim 2, wherein the interplanar distance is at least  $3.0 \times 10^{-9}$  m.
7. A process according to claim 2, wherein the interplanar distance is at least  $3.3 \times 10^{-9}$  m.

8. A process according to claim 1, wherein the catalyst further comprises at least one compound selected from alumina, silica, magnesia, titanium oxide, zirconia, titanium phosphates, zirconium phosphates, boron oxide and charcoal.

9. A process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrodehydrogenating element is a noble group VIII metal.

10. A process according to claim 9, wherein the element is selected from platinum and palladium.

11. A process according to claim 1, wherein the process is carried out at 170-500°C, at 1-250 bars, at an hourly space velocity of 0.05-100 h<sup>-1</sup>, and in the presence of 50-2000 litres of hydrogen per litre of feed.

12. A process according to claim 1, wherein the feed is selected from kerosenes, jet fuels, middle distillates, vacuum residues, gas oils, FCC middle distillates, hydrocracking residues, base stock, synthesised paraffins from the Fischer-Tropsch process, polyalphaolefins, synthesised oils and n-alkylcycloalkanes.

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